

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2852

Examiner: Unassigned

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Applicant : Masahiro FUKUDA et al.

Appl. No. : 10/648,397

Filed : August 27, 2003

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Atty. Dkt. : MAE 294

**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an information disclosure statement submitted in compliance with the timing requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), i.e., prior to a first Office Action on the merits.

A copy of a foreign patent publication and its English-language Abstract are submitted herewith, and are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Any relevance to patentability of the publication may be gleaned from the abstract. (It is noted that the publication was also listed on a Form PTO-1449 submitted on March 3, 2003, but copy of publication was not provided therewith.).

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before a first Office Action, no certification or fee is required, and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98 are deemed to be fully met as to all documents submitted. Consideration of the submitted document respectfully is requested.

Should any fee be required, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002 and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

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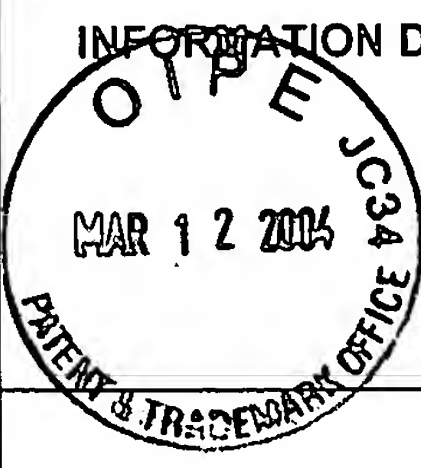
CUSTOMER NO. 23995

March 12, 2004

Date

SMR:pjl

FEE ENCLOSED: \$  
Please charge any further  
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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>				Atty. Docket MAE 294		Application No. 10/648,397	
				Applicant <b>Masahiro FUKUDA et al.</b>			
				Filing Date <b>August 27, 2003</b>		Group <b>2852</b>	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA						5/19/93
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation
	AI	2000-081739	3/21/00	JAPAN			Abstract
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
<b>OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>							
	AO						
Examiner					Date Considered		
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.							